

When people with disabilities lose their health insurance, they cannot get affordable treatment for their medical conditions; and when healthy people lose their health insurance and then become disabled, they, too, will not be able to find affordable treatment for their injuries. Furthermore, when they try to find a new health policy, their disability will be considered a pre-existing condition.

TrumpCare cuts more than \$700 billion from Medicaid. According to an analysis by the Center for American Progress, more than 15 million children and adults with disabilities rely on Medicaid for their health coverage and could lose it if TrumpCare became law.

The President's budget would also have a very devastating impact on all people with disabilities. Trump's budget cuts \$50 billion over the next 10 years from benefits earned by American veterans who are unable to work because of a service-connected disability.

His budget cuts billions from Social Security Disability Insurance, which provides earned benefits to workers who become disabled after years of paying Social Security taxes on their earnings.

His budget cuts billions from Supplemental Security Income, which protects vulnerable people with disabilities, including 1.2 million children who suffer from conditions such as Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, autism, intellectual disabilities, and blindness.

His budget cuts funding for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act by \$113 million, jeopardizing special education services for students with disabilities.

His budget cuts funding for housing for people with disabilities by 20 percent.

His budget eliminates the Limb Loss Resource Center and the Paralysis Resource Center, which cuts support for people with traumatic brain injuries by 67 percent and cuts funding for the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities by 26 percent. It even eliminates Special Olympics Education.

In conclusion, people with disabilities deserve better. That is why we must raise our voices to support them, oppose these budget cuts that target them, and protect their healthcare.

Stopping TrumpCare is not about politics. It is a matter of life and death, and this is especially true for people with disabilities.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF STEVE ROCKFORD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of my friend, Steve Rockford, who passed away last week following his 5-

year battle with ALS, Lou Gehrig's disease.

I first met Steve when he came here to Washington, D.C., to advocate on behalf of more funding for ALS research, and I was really struck by his courageously uplifting demeanor in the midst of a very dark prognosis.

Steve came to my office, was all smiles, brought me this pack of cards where his card was on the top. As you can see right here, Steve leaves behind his wife, Tammie, and his five children.

While this terrible disease attacked Steve's body, it really never touched his resolve. He held a positive and inspirational mindset throughout not only the diagnosis and his treatments, but throughout his fight against ALS. He never let Lou Gehrig's disease bring him down.

Steve actually sent me text messages every day, and it is sad that I don't get them anymore, and we know why. His text messages would have Biblical verses, inspirational messages from a man who was fighting a disease that he knew he was not going to live through.

That tells you a lot about Steve Rockford, a former wrestling coach at Southeast High School in Springfield, Illinois. He is somebody who taught others how to lift themselves up. And while he was fighting the fight of his life, he taught me what it was like to be lifted up by someone so special.

ALS is a devastating disease. It attacks the body. It never stops relenting. It is estimated that 20,000 people have this disease at any given time, and only 20 percent of those affected with ALS live more than 5 years after diagnosis.

We must follow Steve's request to fund research at the National Institutes of Health to ensure that diseases like ALS are eradicated and that those afflicted with the disease have access to home health services and rehabilitation equipment.

While facing a debilitating disease and diagnosis, as you can tell, Steve did not despair, falter, or surrender. Steve Rockford is a hero to me. He is a hero to many in his hometown of Springfield, Illinois. I am a better man for knowing Steve Rockford.

Please continue to keep his wife, Tammie, and their five beautiful children right here in this picture, please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Steve, we are going to miss you. I am sure you are having fun up there.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 8 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

Dr. George Dillard, Peachtree City Christian Church, Peachtree City, Georgia, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, we humbly come before You as leaders in a nation that seems to have lost its way. We seek Your help this day and in the future, Your guidance to help us return to a place where liberty and justice is for all. Remind us that liberty and justice go hand in hand and that liberty cannot exist if there is not justice for the innocent.

Teach us to protect life, to be a refuge for immigrants, the unborn, the aged, the orphaned, the widows, the homeless, the family, the oppressed, those in danger, every race, and our veterans.

Help us to see that unity is stronger than division.

Remind us that consensus without truth is confusion and that power without control is destructive. Remind us again that out of the many should come the one. Give us compassion, strength under control, humility and grace.

Lead us, Father, through this valley that we might stand on the mountain proclaiming with one voice that we are the united people of America.

In Jesus Christ's name.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from New York (Mr. FASO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FASO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING DR. GEORGE DILLARD

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. FERGUSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. George Dillard, whose leadership and guidance have made him a valuable member of the community in Peachtree City and Georgia's Third District.

George was born in 1958, in Jacksonville, Florida, while his dad served in the Navy. He grew up in the Eastpoint Christian Church where he was ordained into ministry in 1982.

He graduated with a bachelor of science degree from Atlanta Christian College in 1983, and answered the call for the First Christian Church in Rincon, Georgia, in 1985, where he began his first full-time ministry.

In 1993, George and his family moved to Peachtree City to serve the Peachtree City Christian Church, where he continues today.

George has been married to his wife, Renee, since 1988, and they have three children and one grandchild. George and his family live in Peachtree City, Georgia.

I want to commend Dr. Dillard for his commitment to our community. There is not a week that goes by where George isn't a visible and welcoming part of the Fayette County community.

The grace and love he has shown his parishioners and neighbors throughout his 24 years in Peachtree City is unparalleled.

I am truly honored to have Dr. George Dillard here with us here today.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WESTERMAN). The Chair will entertain up to 15 further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RALPH P. AVERY TO BE AWARDED FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR MEDAL

(Mr. FASO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FASO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Ralph P. Avery of Claverack, New York, who will soon be awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal.

Mr. Avery served in the U.S. Navy during World War II as a crew member of an LCT-571 landing craft built in upstate New York. He bravely stormed Omaha Beach on D-day in defense of our freedoms and in service of European liberation.

On that historic day, he courageously manned a 20-millimeter gun, firing upon enemy positions. For his heroic actions in combat and their importance to our French allies, next month Mr. Avery will be formally awarded the French Legion of Honor Medal, France's highest honor.

Mr. Avery has been awarded the American Campaign Medal, the European African Middle East Campaign Medal with a Campaign Star for the invasion of Normandy, the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Ralph P. Avery and his fellow veterans for their

outstanding service to America and the cause of liberty.

THE BORDER WALL IS EXPENSIVE AND UNNECESSARY

(Mr. BROWN of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, President Trump's immigration policies are unpopular. They don't protect our national security and don't promote our ideals as a nation.

Nowhere is that more apparent than his repeated calls for a border wall. This wall is so unpopular and nonsensical that the House has now resorted to funding it without even a straight up-or-down vote.

Why are they doing this? Not only to give the President a much-needed win, but to fool the American taxpayer who was repeatedly promised that Mexico would pay for this wall.

The border wall is expensive and unnecessary. It is opposed not only by a huge majority of Americans, but also by those living on the border.

Now, Members of Congress are being forced to choose between voting for the wall and voting to fund our military. I support our servicemembers. I spent 30 years in Active and Reserve Duty. I am a member of the House Armed Services Committee. I want to improve the readiness of our Armed Forces, but I cannot and will not support a multi-billion dollar wall that Members of both sides of the aisle now know is unnecessary and ineffective. I will not throw away \$1.6 billion to feed the President's ego. On this issue, the American people deserve to know exactly where their representatives stand.

PEACE CORPS ANGEL ABROAD— JENNIFER MAMOLA

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Jennifer Mamola represents the very best of America. She volunteered for the Peace Corps at 26 and served in Uganda.

While there, tragically, she was hit from behind by a drunk driver, breaking both of her legs. Her life changed forever.

When she returned home to America, she faced an uphill battle to get treatment and endless bureaucracy. After 3 months, the Peace Corps stopped covering her medical costs and sent her to face the bureaucracy of the Department of Labor.

Instead of serving as a resource, the Peace Corps' postservice unit was no help at all. When she reached out asking for mental health services, they ignored her. She has undergone four surgeries and endless hours of agony.

America's angels abroad deserve better. My legislation will ensure that

Peace Corps volunteers have medical care in foreign countries and in America when they return home.

I want to welcome Jennifer to the House Chamber today. Congress appreciates her service as a Peace Corps volunteer, and we must provide help for wonderful people like her.

And that is just the way it is.

DON'T POLITICIZE NATIONAL SECURITY POLICYMAKING IN CONGRESS

(Mrs. MURPHY of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the House is currently considering the minibus, which would fund certain Federal agencies in the next fiscal year.

As a former Pentagon aide, I have opposed efforts to politicize national security policymaking in Congress. That is why I introduced a bill to bar political operatives from serving on the National Security Council, and was proud when Steve Bannon was removed from the NSC.

The minibus provides robust funding for the Defense Department, the same funding that I proudly voted to authorize as a member of the Armed Services Committee. Sadly, House leadership has taken a strong bipartisan bill and contaminated it by adding a provision assigning \$1.6 billion to construct a border wall.

This provision is opposed by public officials from both parties who actually live along the southwest border, and it will do nothing to keep my constituents in central Florida safe. The money could be better spent to expand an underfunded counterterrorism program that Orlando has been excluded from, or to enhance security at our air and seaports.

In short, this funding should be used to give the American people real security, not politically motivated gimmicks.

MORRISVILLE 12U SOFTBALL TEAM WINS PENNSYLVANIA STATE TITLE

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morrisville 12U Softball Team. These incredible young athletes from our district won the Pennsylvania State title and advanced to the regional tournament in Bristol, Connecticut, to represent the entire State of Pennsylvania. Not only did these young ladies play an incredible season, of which they should be extremely proud, they did so while honoring a member of our community.

The team dedicated their postseason play to the memory of Ms. Donna Rossi, a committed league volunteer and supporter who passed away following a battle with cancer shortly before the first district game.